

## U.S. says it will quit UNESCO

PARIS (R) — The United States has formally told the Paris-based United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) it intends withdrawing in a year's time, well-informed sources said Wednesday. The sources said the U.S. ambassador to UNESCO, Jean Gerard, handed UNESCO Director-General Amadou Mahtar Mbow a letter Wednesday containing the U.S. decision. The sources said it would be formally announced in Washington Thursday. Last weekend reports from Washington said the State Department had recommended to President Reagan that the U.S. withdraw from the 161-nation organisation. There was no immediate comment from UNESCO's Paris headquarters. Any country wishing to withdraw from UNESCO must give a year's notice, and the widely-expected U.S. decision had to be taken by Dec. 31 if Washington wanted to pull out at the end of the next financial year.

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## Kreisky: Qadhafi wants to end split

SALZBURG, Austria (R) — Former Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky returned from talks with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi Wednesday and said he believed Col. Qadhafi wanted to end the split in the Arab World. Dr. Kreisky, 72, told reporters he also believed Col. Qadhafi wanted to see Syria and Israel end what both men saw as roles of superpower representatives in the Lebanon conflict. He said he thought the Libyan leader favoured the creation of a peacekeeping force in Lebanon made up of African and neutral countries rather than the present force of troops from the United States, France, Italy and Britain. The former chancellor, who has often sought to mediate in Middle East politics, said Col. Qadhafi had talked in a positive spirit about Saudi Arabia, an Arab state which differs with Libya on many regional questions. "I got the impression the platform between Qadhafi and the other Arab states has become broader and stronger," Dr. Kreisky said.

Osama Baz expected here in 48 hours

AMMAN (J.T.) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's political adviser Osama Al Baz is due here in the coming 48 hours for talks with senior Jordanian officials. The talks are expected to deal with the topics discussed during PLO leader Yasser Arafat's visit to Cairo and his talks with Mr. Mubarak last Thursday.

Jordan bans Iranian stamp

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Communications Mohammad Addouh Al Zaben has issued a ban on a postal stamp issued by Iran recently. The stamp is considered harmful to Iraq in general, and to President Saddam Hussein's particular, according to the ministry Al Ra'i. As of Thursday no postal material coming into Jordan from Iran will be distributed if it carries this particular stamp, the minister's order said.

Europarlamentarians due to visit Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation from the European Parliament due here in January for talks with Jordanian officials. The delegation members are expected to discuss Middle East issues and will exchange views on a settlement for the Palestinian problem.

More Israelis oppose settlements

TEL AVIV (R) — More Israelis now oppose the setting up of new settlements in the occupied Arab West Bank and Gaza than support the programme, according to a public poll published Wednesday. The Public Opinion Research Institute, in a poll conducted for the independent daily Haaretz, said 44.5 per cent of those questioned this month came out against building further settlements in the occupied areas, compared to 36.9 per cent in support. The remainder had no opinion.

Palestinian fighters arrive in S. Yemen

ADEN (R) — About 580 Palestinian fighters, including 52 families, evacuated from north Lebanon last week with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, have arrived in South Yemen. South Yemeni officials said Wednesday.

Hina seeks end to Gulf war

BAGHDAD (R) — The vice-chairman of the standing committee of the Chinese National People's Congress, Wang Ren Zhong, was quoted as saying Wednesday that China wanted a quick end to the three-year-old Iran-Iraq war. The Iraqi News Agency said Mr. Wang discussed the war Wednesday with Naim Haddad, speaker of the Iraqi National Assembly. The six-man Chinese delegation, which arrived Tuesday night, is also to visit Jordan, Syria and Egypt. Chinese embassy officials said.

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# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جورдан تايمز جريدة اردنية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية العربية "الرأي"



## Another soldier killed, 2 wounded in latest attack Resistance to Israel mounts in Lebanon

TEL AVIV (R) — One Israeli soldier was killed and two were wounded Wednesday when an army patrol was ambushed in southeastern Lebanon, an army spokesman said.

It was the second death this week among Israeli soldiers in Lebanon and brought to 562 the number of Israelis killed in Lebanon since the invasion of June 1982, according to official figures. The ambush occurred near the village of Houne. As of Thursday no banal material coming into Jordan from Iran will be distributed if it carries this particular stamp, the minister's order said.

A military spokesman said earlier that a roadside bomb exploded Wednesday as an Israeli patrol passed near the village of Amiq in eastern Lebanon. There were no casualties or damages in that incident, the spokesman said.

The eastern sector, where a narrow strip of territory separates Israeli and Syrian forces, has been relatively quiet for many months. But three military incidents occurred in the past week and Israeli sources said commando units may have begun operating out of Syrian-held territory.

Israeli forces have been attacked in the area three times in the past week, and Chief of Staff Moshe Levy told static radio that while there had been a big increase in incidents, there was no proof Palestinian fighters released by Israel last month were responsible for the upsurge.

Mr. Levy was quoted as saying that Palestinian fighters who left Tripoli in northern Lebanon last week with Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat had already returned to Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

**'Retaliation' in Sidon**

In Sidon four cars and a number of buildings were damaged by explosives Tuesday night in what Lebanese security sources described as an apparent attack on

the Muslim Brotherhood in the Israeli-held South Lebanese port of Sidon.

The sources said they believed Israel's local allies were responsible and that the attack was in retaliation for the killing of an Israeli soldier in a gun battle on Monday night.

An Israeli military spokesman in Sidon declined comment but military sources in Tel Aviv expressed the opinion that the explosions probably sprang from a gang war in the port.

The assailants hurled up to six hand grenades at a parked car belonging to a brotherhood member and planted two bombs outside the houses of other people in the fundamentalist Sunni Muslim group, local residents said.

Four cars caught fire and one of the bombs damaged several buildings.

The security sources said the brotherhood members were close associates of three Lebanese reportedly killed in Monday's gun battle, which broke out when they were spotted planting a roadside bomb.

The Israeli military sources in Tel Aviv said the explosions were aimed at shops as part of a battle for control of Sidon market. Reporters who visited the scene Wednesday said there were no shops in the area.

The Lebanese security sources said they believed this was the first retaliation of its kind against groups associated with attacks on the Israeli occupation forces in South Lebanon.

In the past Israel has avenged the attacks with air raids on military positions in parts of Lebanon held by Syrian or Lebanese leftist forces.

The air strikes did little to pre-

## Arafat, PLO aides endorse action plan

SANA'A (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who arrived here two days ago after his evacuation from north Lebanon, Wednesday approved a military plan for future Palestinian action, his aides announced without giving details.

They said the plan had been worked out by Mr. Arafat and four Palestinian military commanders after two days of meetings here.

Mr. Arafat signed the plan in his capacity as commander-in-chief of Palestinian forces and ordered its immediate implementation, his aides said.

They gave no details of the plan but said Mr. Arafat had also given his commanders a political and military report on the recent fighting in north Lebanon and the six-week siege of his men by Syrian-backed Palestinian rebels.

Mr. Arafat sailed into a North Yemeni port west of here on Monday.

The statement by Mr. Arafat's aides made no mention of "new trends" within the Palestinian movement, promised by Mr. Arafat following his controversial talks in Egypt with President Hosni Mubarak last Thursday.

His talk in Egypt were sharply criticised by his opponents, some of his supporters and radical Arab countries. Some demanded his removal as chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Meanwhile, a senior Fatah official was quoted Wednesday as saying Mr. Arafat is expected to visit Tunis within the next two days for a meeting of the Central Committee of his Fatah guerrilla group.

The terminal, which the military spokesman said could open in about two weeks, will speed up traffic across the bridge by making it possible for Israeli troops to search eight vehicles simultaneously.

The minister also inspected building work on the vehicle inspection terminal Israel is building at the Awali Bridge into the occupied south.

The terminal, which the military spokesman said could open in about two weeks, will speed up traffic across the bridge by making it possible for Israeli troops to search eight vehicles simultaneously.

Under the present system, imposed after a bomb blast destroyed an Israeli security headquarters in the southern port of Tyre in November, trucks can wait at the Awali for up to a week.

**Cairo talks new approach**

In Cairo, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali was quoted Wednesday as saying the meeting between Mr. Arafat and President Mubarak signalled a new Palestinian approach to the Middle East conflict.

Social conscience persuades Briton to join PLO, page 2

## Jordanian economy will continue growth, says Central Bank chief

By Rami G. Khouri  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Despite a sharp drop in Arab aid and the effects on Jordan of the regional and international economic recessions, the Jordanian economy should grow by 4-5 per cent in real terms this year, Central Bank Governor Dr. Mohammad Sa'id Nabulsi told a gathering of Jordanian bankers here on Tuesday night.

At the annual dinner for bankers hosted by the Jordanian Banks' Association, held at the Amra Hotel, Dr. Nabulsi noted that the Arab oil-producing states that had pledged to provide Jordan with \$1.25 billion a year at the 1978 Bagdad Arab summit have been unable to come up with the full amount, and during the past two years their budget support grants to Jordan have totalled a full \$1 billion less than the Jordanian government had anticipated here.

He expected the inflation rate for this year to be around 5-6 per cent, representing a return to "normal" inflationary levels that correspond to a growing economy. He said the 14 per cent increase in both commercial bank deposits and credits this year is also a return to a more normal rate of growth, after such heavy annual increases as 25-30 per cent during the past eight years.

He said the money supply of Jordan increased by just 1.2 per cent this year, also representing a return to normality after nearly a decade of feverishly high growth that reached over 30 per cent in some years.

Referring to two incidents during the year in which two banking institutions faced serious problems, Dr. Nabulsi urged the bankers to recognise that the fast growth of the 1970s, the quest for profits and the need to expand to meet demand, had created a situation in which the banking system was strained.

Government-guaranteed foreign debts have remained relatively static during the year, registering JD 204 million at the end of September. This should rise, however, with the government's guarantee of the foreign credits required by Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, to finance its purchase of four Lockheed L-1011-500 TriStar jets, worth \$130 million at the end of last year.

He also expected exports to drop this year, though total foreign exchange receipts should leave the country with a rough equilibrium, or perhaps a small deficit, in its balance of payments by the end of the year. He said the balance of payments account was well not only with the Middle Eastern countries, but with any other country in the developing or the industrialised world."

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## Beirut seeks to consolidate truce

BEIRUT (R) — A fragile truce between the Lebanese army and Shi'ite Muslim militiamen held for the second day Wednesday as a special security committee met in an effort to work out a lasting peace.

The committee met for the first time this week after the representative for the Shi'ite Muslim "Ama" (hope) militia agreed to suspend its boycott.

The Lebanese army, the mainly Druze leftist Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and the predominantly Christian right-wing coalition known as the "Lebanese

Forces" are also represented on the four-man committee.

No official announcement was issued at the end of Wednesday's meeting and there was no word on its results.

No significant violations of the latest truce were reported Wednesday but Beirut Radio said a mortar shell landed near an army position in the eastern sector of the battle zone in Beirut's southern suburbs, wounding two civilians.

The terminal, which the military spokesman said

# Turkish Cypriot opposition tables no confidence motion

**NICOSIA (R)** — The main opposition party in northern Cyprus' constituent assembly has tabled a motion of no confidence in the interim government of Prime Minister Nejat Konuk, official sources said Wednesday.

They said the motion, tabled by the Communal Liberation Party (TKP), came after the assembly completed debate on the government's policy programme Tuesday night.

It said the government, appointed until elections are held next year following ratification of a new constitution, was based on an

assembly set up by unconstitutional methods.

The constituent assembly was set up to replace an elected 40-member legislature following the unilateral declaration of an independent Turkish Cypriot state of Northern Cyprus on Nov. 15.

The TKP has 11 seats in the old chamber and the other opposition

group, the Turkish Republican Party, six. But their influence was correspondingly reduced by the appointment of 30 non-elected members to the new chamber.

The official sources said the no confidence motion thus had little, if any chance of success, adding it had not yet been decided if the motion would be put before the chamber in any case.

The 1975 constitution, drawn up after the Turkish invasion the previous year which divided the island into Turkish and Greek Cypriot communities, does not require approval by the assembly

of the government programme, although it does provide for no confidence motions.

The two opposition parties opposed Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash's declaration of independence, but voted for it in the old chamber to preserve Turkish Cypriot solidarity.

So far only mainland Turkey has recognised the new state, and the Greek Cypriot administration in the South remains generally recognised internationally as the legitimate government of the whole of Cyprus.

## Shamir, Peres hit U.S. stand on Cairo talks

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R)** — Israeli opposition leader Shimon Peres joined Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir Tuesday in deplored U.S. endorsement of last week's meeting between Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Palestinian chief Yasser Arafat.

Mr. Shamir told a meeting of the Knesset (parliament) Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee that "American endorsement of the meeting was a blow to peace in our region."

## Egyptian minister flies to Sudan

**CAIRO (R)** — Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali left Cairo for Khartoum Wednesday to brief Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri on the outcome of last Thursday's meeting between President Hosni Mubarak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

He will deliver a message from Mubarak to the Sudanese leader on the meeting, the first between Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Arafat and an Egyptian president for six years. Foreign Ministry officials said.

Mr. Ali will also brief Sudanese officials on his recent talks in Washington with President Reagan and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, the officials said.

## Gulf-Iran passenger line to start soon

**SHARJAH (R)** — The first regular passenger shipping line from Iran to a Gulf state will start next month between the southern Iranian port of Bandar Abbas and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the line's agents said Wednesday.

The Islamic Republic Shipping Lines plans a twice-weekly liner service from mid-January to the Emirate of Sharjah, a spokesman for the agents, Unimarine SA, told Reuters.

The ship, the Japanese-built 350-passenger "Iran Hormuz-1", which can also hold 110 cars, was

expected to take about 110 hours to complete the 110-mile crossing, he said.

Fares would be less than half the cost of air travel and travellers would be able to carry 50 kilogrammes of baggage free of charge, with nominal excess rates.

The service is aimed partly at the roughly 250,000 workers from southern Iran in the UAE, but the line would also promote tourist attractions in Iran, including fully-developed ski resorts, he said.

In a despatch from Tehran, the

official Iranian News Agency IRNA said earlier this month a company had also been established to buy 20 ships for passenger use in the Gulf.

One had already been purchased from Japan with a capacity of 80 passengers to travel between the ports of Chah Bahar and Kenar.

Future plans included passenger services from Iran's Bushehr port to Kuwait and Qatar, and after the end of the present war with Iraq, between Khorramshahr and Kuwait, it said.

## Soviet Jewish emigration falls sharply

**NEW YORK (R)** — A U.S. monitoring organisation said Tuesday the number of Jews emigrating from the Soviet Union fell to a 20-year-low this year and the Reagan administration said this showed "Moscow still had a policy of anti-Semitism."

By the end of 1983 only 1,317 Jews would have emigrated from the Soviet Union, the greater New York conference on Soviet Jewry said.

This was the lowest number in 20 years and a drop of 98 per cent from the peak year of 1979. 51,320 Jews were granted exit permits, it added.

Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights Elliott Abrams, appearing at the press conference

that announced the figures, accused the Soviet Union of "lying" when it insisted that the low figure for 1983 meant that all the Jews who wanted to leave have left."

Mr. Abrams changed that the "forced" decline in numbers was "an unmitigated act of evil" against which the United States will protest at every meeting it has with Soviet officials.

He blamed it on several factors including sour relations between the United States and the Soviet Union after the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

He said there were two new factors in Soviet attitudes towards Jews, the creation of an anti-Zionist committee with branches across the Soviet Union and a re-

ent provision in the Russian penal code in which prison terms for disidents can be extended.

In 1982, 2,600 Jews emigrated from the Soviet Union — more than twice the 1983 figure.

## Ship missing in Mediterranean

**ISTANBUL (R)** — A 1,100-ton Panamanian-registered coaster, Ghina-3, has been missing in the Mediterranean for 18 days while travelling between southern Turkey and north Cyprus, port officials said. They said nothing had been heard from the coaster, which had a cargo of grain, since it left the Turkish port of Iskenderun.

The authorities did not explain why the action was taken but the independent Arab News Agency said the shutdown was the result of a front-page editorial Tuesday attacking the government and accusing it of deciding to commit suicide by invading the southern outskirts of the capital.

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's leading left-wing daily, Al Safir, was suspended by the government for one day Wednesday, apparently for violating censorship rules.

The authorities did not explain why the action was taken but the independent Arab News Agency said the shutdown was the result of a front-page editorial Tuesday attacking the government and accusing it of deciding to commit suicide by invading the southern outskirts of the capital.

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## French troops fire back at gunmen

**BEIRUT (R)** — Gunmen opened up on a French patrol with automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenades in Beirut Tuesday night and paratroopers returned fire, a French spokesman said.

Colonel Philippe de Longeaux reported no casualties among the Frenchmen nor damage to their two vehicles.

He said the patrol was driving along the Bechara El Khoury Boulevard, not far from French headquarters, when the gunmen opened fire.

It was the latest in a series of attacks against French troops of the Multinational Force in Beirut.

## Jackson may delay trip to Syria

**WASHINGTON (R)** — Presidential hopeful Jesse Jackson said Tuesday he would not go to Syria to seek the release of a captured U.S. pilot if President Reagan asked him not to.

Rev. Jackson, a black civil rights leader seeking the Democratic nomination, has announced plans to fly to Damascus to discuss the release of navy Lieutenant Robert Goodman, also a black held by Syria after he was shot down over Lebanon on Dec. 4.

His proposed mission, planned after an invitation by Syria's ambassador to Washington, has caused concern in the White House and State Department which said

Tuesday that such private contacts could be "self-defeating".

After meeting senior State Department officials Tuesday Rev. Jackson left open the possibility that he might not make the visit, saying: "at this point we would not go in defiance of him (Reagan)."

He also appeared to set further conditions on his trip — that he meet Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Lt. Goodman and that the black airman was about to return home.

If these conditions were not met it would have an effect on the timing of his trip, he said.



Jesse Jackson

## Social conscience persuades Englishman to join PLO

By Jonathan Wright  
Reuters

**BEIRUT** — The blonde, blue-eyed fighter stood out from his darker Palestinian colleagues aboard the Greek liner which took PLO leader Yasser Arafat and 1,200 of his commandos through the Suez Canal last week.

Ian Davison, 26-year-old joiner from South Shields in northeast England, was one of the latest recruits into "Squad 17", the fighting unit closest to the Palestinian leader.

Without any military training and with only a smattering of Arabic, he went into battle in Baddawi Refugee Camp near the north Lebanese port of Tripoli only hours after stepping off a Cypriot coaster in early November.

"They just gave me a Kalashnikov (automatic rifle), showed me how to use it and put me in a unit to fend for myself," Davison told Reuters aboard the Odysseas Elytis.

Syrian-backed Palestinian rebels had already started their assault on Mr. Arafat's north Lebanon strongholds and there was little time for formal training.

Davison had his baptism of fire even before stepping foot on land — the coaster was shelled in harbour and later sank.

A few days later while sheltering in a grocer's shop on the Baddawi main street, Davison saw

two of his new mates badly maimed by shrapnel. The fighter sitting on his right lost an eye, the one on his left had a deep gash in the leg.

During the loyalists' withdrawal from the camp around Nov. 17, the Englishman found himself crouching alone behind a rusty old Caterpillar with a group of three rebels advancing over a sand-dune.

"I stuck my head up and fired a wide clip towards them. I knew they'd fire back so I hit the deck and waited."

"My heart was throbbing like crazy. An RPG (rocket-propelled grenade) came in and exploded five yards away. But I was lying in a hollow and nothing touched me."

Davison, now in North Yemen with most of the Arafat loyalists from the Tripoli area, said joining the PLO was a reaction to three years in the United States.

"I was living the good life, without any social conscience, then I decided to help the Palestinians in a real way, not just from a distance."

A friend in South Shields had the idea of joining the PLO, but he chose to stay in England for the sake of his wife and children, Davison said.

As the mutiny against Mr. Arafat spread during the summer, Davison decided to act. He first made contact with the PLO in

Athens but was referred to the Damascus office.

By the time he reached the Syrian capital, Mr. Arafat's offices were winding up their business there, so he went on to Amman, Jordan, where the PLO office spent six days testing his commitment and vetting him for security.

When approval came through they gave him money, a ticket to the Cypriot port of Larnaca and the address of the man who would arrange the voyage from Cyprus to Tripoli.

As a commando, Davison received in Lebanon a salary of \$1,700 a month, plus food, board and all essential supplies.

"People assume you do it for the money, but the money isn't much and you don't need it anyway," he said.

The Englishman said he was pleasantly surprised by the kindness and bravery of his comrades.

"They'd take one look at you, see you hadn't slept for days, lie you down, give you food, a cup of tea, right in the middle of the bat-

tle," he said.

But some of the commandos, especially the Lebanese auxiliaries in Tripoli, were quick to disappear as soon as there was work to be done such as filling sand bags or "keeping the place shipshape", he added.

## TV & RADIO

## WHAT'S GOING ON

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

JORDAN TELEVISION		WHAT'S GOING ON		FOR THE TRAVELLER		USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.	
MAIN CHANNEL							
16:30 .....	Koran						
16:45 .....	Cartoons						
17:10 .....	Children's Programmes						
18:25 .....	We Are Moving						
18:50 .....	Programmes Review						
19:00 .....	Local Competition Programme						
20:00 .....	News in Arabic						
20:25 .....	Arabic Play						
20:30 .....	News in Arabic						
20:45 .....	Play Cont'd.						
FOREIGN CHANNEL							
18:00 .....	French Programme						
19:00 .....	News in French						
19:30 .....	News in Hebrew						
20:30 .....	Barney Miller: The Slave 101: Great Paintings						
21:10 .....	Love Boat						
22:00 .....	News in English						
22:15 .....	Feature Film: We Are Fighting Back — Kevin Mohan, Paul McCrane						
RADIO JORDAN							
855 KHz, AM & 90 MHz FM & partly on 9560 KHz SW							
07:30 .....	Morning Show						
07:40 .....	News Bulletin						
07:45 .....	Morning Show						
10:00 .....	New's Summary						
10:15 .....	Oriental Food						
10:30 .....	Morning Show						
10:45 .....	Pop Session						
12:05 .....	News Summary						
12:30 .....	Pop Session						

# HOME

## Palestine stamp issued

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Communications Monday issued a memorial stamp about Palestine to commemorate the International Day for Solidarity with the Palestinian people on Nov. 29.

The new stamp will be distributed for public use at all post offices as of Tuesday.

Minister of Communications Mohammad Al Zaben said that the stamp is being issued in com-

pliance with the ministry's policy of celebrating all national occasions, and is an expression of Jordanian solidarity with the Palestinian cause.

The new issue, the revenues of which will be used to assist families of Palestinian martyrs, comprises stamps one of five and one of ten fils in value, with a picture of the Dome of the Rock wrapped in the Jordanian flag.

## JTV to introduce idea of Teletext information

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Television, in cooperation with the French company Sofratec, will hold a seminar Wednesday Nov. 30 on the Teletext system in the conference hall of the Amman Chamber of Commerce.

The seminar programme will include lectures and discussions on the teletext system. It is a commercial information system which transmits information in writing and tabulation form through television frequencies.

The viewer can choose such programmes through the medium of the television screen by the use of a simple control device, provided an additional teletext decoder is attached.

The information can either be

comprehensive or in the form of brief news items from around the world. It can also be used to include bulletins from different government departments, announcements, financial information, weather reports, air flights, advertisements, sports results, prices of consumer commodities amongst many others.

This information can be modified or changed constantly in accordance with events, and the viewer can watch the TV transmission all day.

This television service has already proved successful in the United States, Australia, United Kingdom, West Germany, Belgium, Austria, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, and many other countries.

## Surgery corrects deformity

AMMAN (Petra) — An operation for the adjustment of a deformed rib cage was performed at Al Bashir government hospital Monday by Dr. Said Al Fayoumi.

Dr. Fayoumi said that the operation is the first to have been undertaken at Al Bashir Hospital, and its success will help a great number of people overcome the physical and psychological negative impact of such a deformity, which, among other things, res-

tricts the heart from functioning properly.

Dr. Fayoumi added that the patient usually feels a great relief even only 24 hours after the operation, which is reflected in his psychological condition.

Assisting Dr. Fayoumi in the operation, which took three and a half hours, were Dr. Hamdi Abu Al Adas and Dr. Hassan Darweesh.

## British Council employee receives OBE award

AMMAN (J.T.) — Catherine Khouri, the administration officer in the direct teaching of English operation at the British Council, Sunday night was presented with the award of Member of the Order of the British Empire by the British Ambassador to Jordan, Alan Urwick.

In his speech at the presentation, Mr. Urwick said that Miss Khouri has been in continuous employment with the British Council here since the council first opened an office in Jordan in May 1948.

Until 1980 she was employed as

the representative's personal assistant in which capacity she served a succession of representatives.

In October 1980, following a serious illness, she retired; but subsequently resumed work at the British Council.

Her administrative abilities and skill in public relations have contributed in no small measure to the success of this English teaching operation, Mr. Urwick said.

It was in recognition of these long years of dedicated and distinguished service that this award was made, he added.

## JD 776.7 million budget presented

(Continued from page 1)

and payment of interests on time in order to secure its ability to borrow from international markets when needed.

To continue to support the steadfastness of the people in the occupied territories and to fulfil government pledges to them.

To attain one of the main goals of the five-year plan represented, namely achieve self-reliance.

In order to achieve this goal, the estimated local revenues in next year's budget will be enough to cover all the estimated recurrent expenditures. A goal that the five-year plan stated should be achieved in 1985, the last year of the plan.

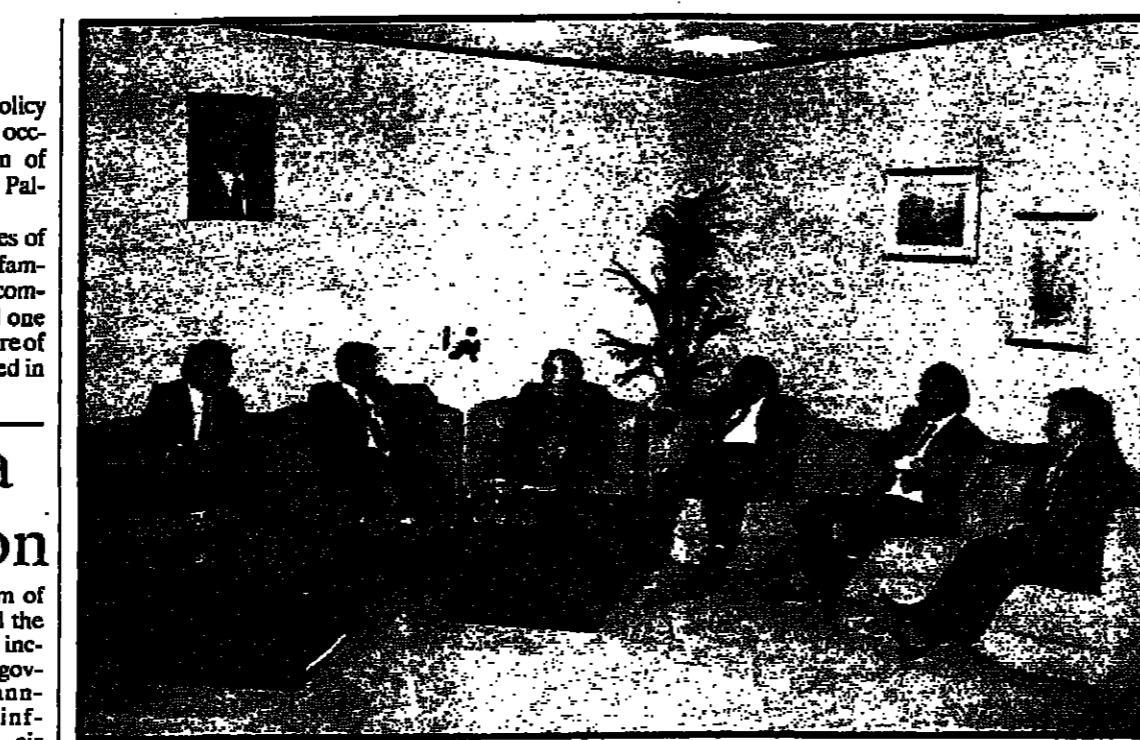
To expand the modern living requirements, by providing water and electricity to vast areas in the Kingdom and to all population concentrations, and by connecting them with necessary roads for this JD 32,000,000 were allocated to roads network, JD 47,000,000 for water projects and JD 29,000,000 for electricity projects.

This, in addition to other amounts allocated in the budgets of the institutions engaged in those fields, namely JD 20,000,000 to water projects and JD 18,000,000 to electricity projects.

Also JD 500,000 (part of the revenues generated from fuel sales) in addition to the sum of rural taxes, estimated at JD 1,800,000 will ensure the quick implementation of a country-wide electricity network coverage and to choose the right time to begin the work.

Despite the fact that the government has a trend towards the rationalisation of its subsidies for consumer commodities and to lower them the minimum, it will continue subsidising fuel, energy and some basic foodstuff. To keep the cost of fuel and wheat down, the budget includes a JD 18 million and a JD 12 million subsidy figure for these areas respectively.

The finance minister explained that the estimated local revenues for 1984 is JD 449 million com-



The press delegation from the Union of Journalists in the Soviet Union seen here Monday shortly after their arrival on a week long visit to Jordan (Petra photo)

## Soviet press delegation arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — A press delegation from the Union of Journalists in the Soviet Union arrived here Monday on a one-week visit to Jordan with the framework of exchange visits between the Soviet body and the Jordanian Journalists Association.

The association has prepared a

programme for its guest delegation which includes meetings with a number of officials and tours of prominent development projects in Jordan.

The Soviet delegation includes the head of developing countries section at the Pravda newspaper, the senior political commentator

from Izvestia and two members of the board of the Union of Journalists of the Soviet Union.

They were received by Jordanian Journalists Association and Ministry of Information officials, the Soviet charge d'affaires and the press attache at the Soviet embassy here.

The project includes the construction of diversionary and cement-mix dams on subsidiary streams to be installed in storing poles, which in turn will pump stored waters into a network of major and subsidiary pipes for irrigation purposes.

The project also includes the construction of 2100 kilometres of

## Joint Arab aviation planning meeting inaugurated

AMMAN — "Strategic planning" is the title of a three-day seminar organised by the Boeing Corporation and sponsored by the Arab Air Cargo Organisation (AACO). The seminar started Monday and will run until Wednesday here at the Holiday Inn Hotel.

On the opening day of the seminar, member airlines' planning and marketing executives discussed a broad range of issues affecting their strategic planning capabilities and efforts.

During the seminar, Fahd Fanek, vice-president Finance of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines, deputised for Chairman Ali Ghandour in delivering a welcoming speech on behalf of Alia as

the host country's national carrier.

The seminar was attended by representatives from 13 Arab airlines as well as from Alia's planning, marketing and sales departments.

Amer Sharif, director-general of AACO, told the Jordan Times that there are seven experts from the international Boeing Corporation participating in the seminar who will deliver lectures on the latest developments in the field of aviation.

They will also submit studies made on ways of improving procedures already being used by most air carrier organisations.

The AACO was established in 1965 and comprises all 18 Arab airlines as its members.

Under the agreement, the AAC will operate on regular weekly

Marketing conference

Meanwhile, the annual conference of the Alia marketing and sales operation has been scheduled to be held here between Dec. 13 and 15 and will include celebrations of Alia's 20th anniversary.

The forthcoming conference

## Pertini tours Italian backed irrigation project

AL KARAK (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday morning accompanied visiting Italian President Sandro Pertini on a tour of the south Jordan Valley, where he viewed the South Ghor irrigation project currently being implemented by the Italian firm of Impresit.

Jordan Valley Authority President Munther Haddadin expressed in a speech of welcome to Mr. Pertini his high appreciation of the assistance extended by the Italian government for the implementation of development projects in Jordan.

He pointed out that the project under execution aims at improving the economic situation in the area, which is inhabited by 2,000 families.

The project will irrigate 16,000 dunums of farming lots comprising 30 dunums each. Out of the total amount, 26,000 dunums will be in Ghor Al Safi. Dr. Haddadin said.

The project includes the construction of diversionary and cement-mix dams on subsidiary streams to be installed in storing poles, which in turn will pump stored waters into a network of major and subsidiary pipes for irrigation purposes.

The project also includes the construction of 2100 kilometres of

rural road connecting farming areas with services' centres. Dr. Haddadin added.

The second stage of the project aims at irrigating 56,000 dunums of South Ghor land by diverting the course of the Wadi Al Mujib.

The project will require the construction of a diversionary dam on Wadi Al Mujib with a 3.5 kilometre tunnel and a 48-kilometre water-carrier with a capacity of 1.4 cubic metres per second.

Impresit director-general welcomed King Hussein and the Italian president to the company's works-site and pointed out that the company had executed several agricultural projects in Jordan since 1956 in addition to road construction and phosphate mining projects.

He also thanked the Jordanian government for its appreciation of the companies efforts, and the Jordanian people for cooperating with those working on the project.

Dr. Haddadin then presented

Mr. Pertini with a commemorative gift while the Impresit director gave the King a present as well.

The King and Mr. Pertini were accompanied on their tour by the accompanying Italian delegation.

Later in the afternoon, Mr. Pertini, his delegation and the King visited the ancient Jordanian city of Petra, where they were received by Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar. Earlier, on Sunday evening, Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor gave a dinner at Al Nadwa in honour of President Pertini.

The dinner was attended by His Highness Prince Mohammed and His Highness Princess Basma and Her Highness Princess Taghrid.

The dinner was also attended by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Royal Court Chief Ahmad Lawzi, Court Minister Amer Kharmash, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief, Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and their wives.

A number of accompanying delegation members and the Italian ambassador to Jordan Marquis Fabrizio Rossi-Lonardi also attended.

President Pertini presented Queen Noor with the order of merit of the Italian Republic on the occasion.

## Wasfi Tal's death marked

AMMAN (J.T.) — Monday, Nov. 28 marked the twelfth anniversary of the death of the late Jordanian Premier Wasfi Al Tal, a prominent figure in the country's political history and a tough advocate of Jordan's self-sufficiency and reliance.

The late prime minister was assassinated on Nov. 28, 1971 while attending a meeting of Arab defence ministers in Cairo.

In a statement on forming his first cabinet in 1962, Mr. Tal stressed the need for making the best of available national resources for modernising Jordan to cope with the requirements of a rapidly-developing world and a sweeping scientific and technological revolution.

Mr. Tal was a strident advocate of the mobilisation of Jordan's national and human resources in order to create a society capable of confronting the continued Zionist threat to Jordan.

Wasfi Al Tal

He believed that Israel could only win its wars with the Arabs on a quality basis, which he thought could be combated by developing Arab society as a whole, he thought.

Henceforth, he always adopted an outlook calling for the organisation of the Jordanian society on solid foundations of integrity to face pressing circumstances.

## Community development seminar to open today

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day seminar on local community development is scheduled to open Tuesday at the 'Allan Community Centre.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Minister of Social Development Inam Al Mutti, who will open the seminar, said that local community development aims at improving the standard of living and achieving

Director of 'Allan centre Issam Al Zwawi said that the seminar is aimed at improving services at local community level through applying integrated and comprehensive development programmes and achieving popular participation in such schemes.

## Air cargo accord signed

AMMAN (Petra) — Director-General of the Arab Air Cargo Salih Hussein returned here Monday after a visit to Kuwait where he signed an air freight agreement with Kuwaiti Airways.

The AACO was established in 1965 and comprises all 18 Arab airlines as its members.

Under the agreement, the AAC will operate on regular weekly

flights to Kuwait from the beginning of December.

The signing of this agreement is in line with the AACO plan which aims at expanding its route network to link Jordan and Iraq with Arab and world capitals.

S. N.



Mohammad Tijani

which are "internationally marketable" and with exception of vegetables and fruits which are exported to neighbouring Arab countries. Most of the other industries were basically established to meet the needs of the local market with the purpose of minimising the chronic deficit in the balance of trade. The prices of the products of these industries are not competitive compared with the prices of similar imported products, yet these industries were allowed to "survive" under the protection of high tariff walls, he added.

Marketing efforts in both the private and public sectors vis-a-vis their products and services, is becoming the main concern of companies both inside and outside Jordan, who are understandably wary about committing themselves to high risk endeavours. Local and foreign commercial and industrial companies are demanding more research, more feasibility studies, more strategic planning and more "review" committees to weed out marketing problems. In Jordan however, the result of all these checks is total confusion and inactivity.

According to Mohammad Tijani, general manager of the Amman Chamber of Commerce, enlightened companies have recognised the challenge and are radically overhauling their operations to put more emphasis on marketing, seeking top marketing executives and changing the nature and scope for their jobs.

"Marketing efforts in the private sector are generally not up to my satisfaction or expectations", Mr. Tijani told the Jordan Times in an interview. He pointed out that the concept of "marketing" as envisaged by the general manager

of most commercial and industrial companies in Jordan, "is still primitive". The marketing manager, according to him, is usually responsible for the implementation of advertising campaigns and sales contracts only, while pricing, advertising, sales management, product specifications and the marketing channels to be used are all the general management's concern or responsibility. So in that case, the marketing manager is not a decision-maker in the activities which should fall within his domain, he simply executes the orders and policies of the general management. "In my opinion" he said, both, the marketing manager and the general management should cooperate in implementing all tasks involved within the marketing process.

Also, according to Mr. Tijani, the prices of most Jordanian products are not competitive, neither on a regional nor international level, with the exception of potash, phosphate and fertilisers. "Marketing plan has yet been worked out in this respect with the exception of the personal and continuing efforts of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. I believe that the promotion of Jordan's development plan depends largely on the image of Jordan abroad, which should promote Jordan as a country enjoying political stability with all facilities and physical and human resources necessary for a sound and fruitful investment," he said. Regarding the vital role of advertising campaigns in marketing, Mr. Tijani said that the marketing efforts of the local private sector vis-a-vis imported goods are limited to advertising through the media of the local press and television and to personal selling on a very limited scale.

Mr. Tijani went on to explain that advertising campaigns are in most cases carried out without proper consideration being given by the marketing manager in most companies to what media should be used, the frequency with which the various advertisements will appear, and the message to be employed. "Usually" he maintained, "advertising agencies, with poorly qualified staff, take the decisions related to the media, the frequency and the message to be used by the marketing manager.

On a larger scale, concerning the efforts of both the private and public sectors to promote Jordanian products abroad, Mr. Tijani declared "one would not be far from the truth to say that such efforts are very limited, to the point that they could be described as being nil."

As a basic measure to overcome the shortage or lack of qualified marketing managers furnishing the needs of marketing in the country, Mr. Tijani suggested that the Jordanian Federation of Cha-

mbers of Commerce and the Amman Chamber of Industry, as well as the Ministry of Industry and Trade should in collaboration with the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University, establish an institute that would graduate qualified marketing managers. "But" he pointed out, "there is no point establishing such an institute, unless those responsible for guiding the destiny of industry in Jordan realise that they can no longer depend on casual personal contacts and personal impressions when taking decisions pertinent to their business operations."

According to Mr. Tijani, marketing managers should realise that they must keep in touch with their customers to find out what they really need

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## Record speaks for itself

If you have never heard of a guy called Elliott Abrams, here is your best chance of doing so. The man, with the title U.S. assistant secretary of state for human rights, was in the news circulating all over the world yesterday. He was charging Moscow of adopting an official policy of anti-Semitism for not letting more than 1,307 Jews emigrate from the Soviet Union during 1983.

Appearing at a press conference for an organisation called "the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry" on Wednesday, Abrams accused the Soviet authorities of "lying" for insisting that the low figure of 1983 meant that all the Jews "who wanted to leave have left". Yet, he managed to blame the "forced" decline in numbers of Jewish emigrants on several factors including sour relations between Washington and Moscow after the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

What the chief authority on human rights in America failed to see, however, is the connection between the "problem" of Soviet Jewry and the Palestinian problem. And if he did see it, he chose to ignore it — completely.

The U.S. is in fact making a mockery of its policy in defence of the "rights" of Soviet Jews on the one hand and continuing to ignore the rights of the Palestinian people on the other. How are we to believe, indeed who is to believe, that the Americans are qualified to dub the Soviet Union anti-Semitic for its refusal to let more of its citizens leave the country when the U.S. itself can all too easily be accused of being anti-Arab and anti-Palestinian — and we are Semites as well?

This talk is not to defend the policy and the actions of the Soviet Union — the Soviets can do that for themselves. It is to remind the Americans that their record on human rights in 1983 is still far from being thorough and honest — and is too poor to be taken seriously, anyway.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### *Al Ra'i:* The responsibility is Lebanon's

THE CYCLE of violence has returned to Lebanon. The recent fighting has removed all optimism for a speedy solution and increased the agony of the Lebanese people. The Arab masses had thought that the past sacrifices and the lesson learnt over the past eight years would be heeded and that national reconciliation will replace the internal fighting and the factional violence. We have to remind all parties to the conflict that all factions and groups that were involved in the past fighting had lost the battle.

All factions and all groups had lost to the Israelis because they alone are the winners of inter-Arab conflict. The Israelis and the Americans have maintained that the fighting was due to the presence of the Palestinian fighters. But these Palestinians have now left the country and the fighting continues unabated.

Of course the Israelis and the Americans are to blame for many acts of violence, but the Lebanese factions bear the prime responsibility for the continued conflict and the bloodshed. They have to speed up their reconciliation talks to arrive at a solution and the Arab countries should help them to do so.

### *Al Dostour:* Why Israel is so busy?

AS THE Arabs are bogged down in their little disputes and internal conflicts, the Israelis continue to consolidate their hold over the occupied Arab lands and to Judaize Arab territory.

As the events in Lebanon were going on, the Israelis have been busy evicting Arab inhabitants from their homeland, building settlements on their usurped land and forcibly removing the inhabitants of refugee camps to new sites easier for the authorities to control.

Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens has announced that the removal of the refugees from their present camps is designed to maintain Israel's security. The Israelis have drawn up plans for removing the refugees and have carried these plans to the United States to obtain support and raise funds for the project.

These Israeli measures are designed to weaken Arab resistance and force the population to abandon their homeland.

Jordan has often drawn other Arab states' attention to these arbitrary measures and Israel's plans. We must again warn the Arab World and other nations of Israeli practices, and call on Arab countries to end their differences and confront the danger threatening their future.

### *Sawt Al Shaab:* Israel's ultimate goal

IN HIS address to the European Parliament earlier this month, His Majesty King Hussein warned of the danger inherent in Israel's plans in the occupied Arab territories, and referred in particular to Israel's intention of removing the refugee camps as a step towards ending the refugee problem.

This step paves the way for the ultimate goal of evicting the refugees from their homeland altogether. What King Hussein warned against is now materialising and taking shape in the West Bank. Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens visited Duheisheh refugee camp Tuesday to discuss with his military aides how and when to embark on the project, and to view the situation closely.

Israel's plans have been drawn up approved by Washington and made ready to implement while the Arabs are still and are engaged in their little wars, their internal differences and conflicts.

The Arab Nation as a whole is called on to take a joint action and abort Israel's plans, and the international community and the United Nations must also shoulder part of the responsibility and put an end to Israel's illegal actions and practices.

## RED & BLACK

# The top ten economic events of 1983

THE HARD year of 1983 is about to sink in the sea of oblivion. While a new year is about to set in, it may be useful to pay homage and tribute to the departing one. Red and Black has been doing this for quite a spell, and it has been a habit to choose 10 big economic events in the years past labelling them as the "top ten".

1983 is characterised in my opinion by three major attributes. First, liberation from certain pseudo-socialistic attitudes and the prevalence of the thought that governments should not replace the private sector nor should they exercise extensive price controls in order to regulate. Second, there is a creeping trend, even among the public, towards isolations — the feeling that we stand alone if others choose to do likewise. Third, and related to the second, the prevalence of self-reliance as a concept with the realisation

that it can be painful.

With these moods in mind,

here are the biggest ten eco-

nomic events or changes of

1983:

the economy itself. Even so, a rate of growth less than five per cent has been recorded for the first time since 1973.

3. Foreign labour: As signs of occasional unemployment begin to invade the Jordanian economy, there are louder voices calling for ending the free policy of importing foreign labour. This issue is important because it signifies latent fears and the realisation that foreign competition is not all that healthy. Moreover, the rise in the number of house maids is viewed as social deterioration as well.

4. Jordanisation of banks: This issue so far has not been completed. Yet, it is expected to be approved this year and the negotiation battle will reach its zenith in 1984. This issue will be blown beyond life size thus creating deep interest particularly by Jordanians.

5. Transport stamp: No

event has left its deep scar on

the Jordanian economy than the slump which took place in the transport sector. More than 7,000 trucks stood idle representing about \$400-500 million.

Jordan had to take the tough decision also of choosing between boosting this ailing sector by ignoring road safety and conservation regulations or upholding them. A formula was eventually found — which may salvage this sector.

6. The rise of Social Security: Nobody — almost nobody — believed six years ago, that this small budding institute would rise like King Kong to scare the city. Social Security is on its way to household stardom and is now a main source of investable funds in Jordan. With its \$250 million in assets at the end of this year, it will be the "buddy" to please in years of slowdown. The recent purchase of hotels and resthouses at JD 21 million demonstrates its affluence.

7. New customs law: This is a very important law because it signified the abolishment of a law that constrained Jordan's business for sometime. Unifications of customs laws with Arab countries is not a feasible event. Thus, Jordan's new law looks inward and meets Jordan's commercial and industrial needs as such.

8. New projects: The most important two projects of 1983 are the Queen Alia International Airport introducing Jordan to tourists in a grand way. This \$280 million project took place in the National Consultative Council (NCC) over such issues as marketing, pricing, fertilisers, agricultural patterns, etc. Important recommendations were made.

9. Protocol with Egypt: Jordan became in 1983 a target destination of many world leaders and officials and thinkers, and specialists. These fed to

many crucial outcomes. The recent signature of a trade protocol with Egypt stirred the largest reaction on political grounds. If implemented it would go a long way in boosting Jordan's trade and normalising economic relations with two traditional trade partners.

10. The agricultural debate: Agriculture is a sector that is often misunderstood. This year it became the champion of rural development, return to nature, redistributor of wealth and population. A hot debate took place in the National Consultative Council (NCC) over such issues as marketing, pricing, fertilisers, agricultural patterns, etc. Important recommendations were made.

The most important reaction was the creation of the new "Jordan Marketing Corporation" with a capital of JD 10 million to cater for agricultural products.



East-West missile crisis, Lebanon, Iran-Iraq war, Grenada and

C. America have topped universal year agenda

**1983: International tension, an unresolved economic crisis still plague the human scene, inflict suffering**

By Irena Czekierska  
Reuters

LONDON — Worsening East-West relations and conflicts in the Middle East and Central America raised international tension in 1983, a year in which the superpowers stopped talking about nuclear arms reductions.

United States medium-range nuclear weapons began arriving in Western Europe and talks between the Soviet Union and the U.S. aimed at cutting their arsenals broke off with no dates set for their resumption.

As the year closes, at least five areas are still being torn by constant fighting: Lebanon, the Gulf, Afghanistan, Central America and Kampuchea. In Chad, a 17-year conflict flared anew.

Three dramatic events captured international attention: The Soviet shooting down of a South Korean airliner with 269 people on board, the American-led invasion of Grenada and suicide car bomb attacks on Multinational troops in Beirut.

Hardly a day passed without word of the crisis in Lebanon, of internal fighting among Palestinian and religious factions, of attacks against occupying Israeli forces, and of tentative ceasefires frequently broken.

Elsewhere in the Middle East, the war between Iran and Iraq entered its fourth year despite United Nations and Arab attempts to bring peace to the Gulf.

Afghanistan, too, has seen no end to the fighting between government troops and Western-supported Muslim groups seeking to drive out the Soviet forces who intervened in 1979.

The U.S. faced widespread criticism for its involvement in Central

America, and even NATO allies were swift to condemn the October invasion of Grenada.

Two years of U.S.-Soviet talks in Geneva on limiting Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) in Europe ended in November when the Soviet Union walked out after the West German parliament voted to go ahead with deployment of U.S. Pershing-2 missiles under a 1979 NATO plan.

Despite massive demonstrations from anti-nuclear protesters all over Europe, the first Pershing-2 and cruise missiles due for deployment began to arrive in Britain, West Germany and Italy in November.

Separate U.S.-Soviet talks on long-range intercontinental missiles and NATO-Warsaw Pact discussions on conventional weapons in Europe have also adjourned, without resumption dates.

In Lebanon, guerrillas loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat are finally leaving after weeks of fierce battles against Syrian-backed rebels.

Attacks on the Multinational Force in October, claiming the lives of 241 U.S. and 58 French troops, will be remembered among the horrifying events in Lebanon this year.

The suicidal bombings took place in Beirut and later on French and U.S. targets in Kuwait.

The Lebanese crisis also brought Syria into confrontation with the U.S. and to a lesser extent French forces based in Beirut.

In the Gulf war, Iran launched several offensives against Iraq during the year, and in response to Iraqi threats of attacks on oil installations in the Gulf, said it would block the Hormuz Strait if dis-

ruption of its oil shipments con-

tinued.

Iraq took delivery of five French Super-Etendard jets capable of carrying Exocet missiles.

In Afghanistan, the war enters its fifth year this month and hopes of a political settlement, fanned by United Nations-sponsored talks last spring, have failed.

The invasion of Grenada, a former British colony, followed a power struggle in the ruling Marxist Party and a military coup during which Prime Minister Maurice Bishop was killed.

Grenada's close ties with Cuba and the Soviet Union had soured relations with the U.S., which maintained that a new airport being built on the island was to be used as a launching pad for Cuban operations in Africa and South America.

Washington came in for mixed reactions over its intervention in Grenada and critics also attacked its policy of financing a rebel war against the leftwing Sandinista government in Nicaragua, and the return to power in Britain of Margaret Thatcher's Conservatives.

Municipal elections in France also reflected a swing to the right, with the Socialists and Communists losing control of 31 major towns and gaining only one.

The left fared better in Australia where, under the new leadership of Bob Hawke, the labour party swept to victory in general elections in March.

Democracy returned to two countries. Argentina and Turkey, after years of military rule.

In Argentina, Raul Alfonsin was sworn in as president in December after leading his reformist Radical Party to a landslide victory in elections.

And in Turkey, an elected assembly met for the first time since the 1980 military coup, with Turgut Ozal, leader of the conservative Motherland Party which won the November elections, taking office as prime minister under continued military rule.

Cyprus became the focus of international attention when Turkish Cypriots in the north proclaimed an "Independent Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus," but only Turkey has so far recognised the unilateral declaration.

Political unrest erupted in Sri Lanka in July, when violence bet-

ween the Sinhalese and Tamil communities led to large numbers of deaths, the imposition of a curfew, and the banning of leftwing parties.

In the British-ruled province of Northern Ireland, acts of terrorism continued unabated despite efforts to form a new all-Ireland "forum" linking all political parties from the North and the Republic of Ireland in the south.

In Chad, France and America sent military support for the government of Hissene Habre in its fight against Libyan-backed rebels led by former President Goukouni Oueddei.

In the Philippines, opposition leader Benigno Aquino was shot dead as he returned from exile in America. The assassination led to huge public demonstrations against President Ferdinand Marcos's government.

And in Burma, two north Korean rebels were sentenced to death for their part in an October bomb explosion which killed 21 people, including four visiting South Korean cabinet ministers.

The year brought mixed fortunes for the Poles. Martial law was officially lifted and a limited amnesty declared for political and other offenders in July, but strict control on social and economic life continued.

Pope John Paul II paid a visit to his native country in June and met Polish Leader General Jaruzelski and Lech Walesa, leader of the banned free trade union Solidarity.

Throughout the world, man-made woes were matched by natural disasters. Bush fires swept large areas of southwest Australia, severe floods, drought and storms claimed at least 6,000 lives in

China, and typhoons hit northern and central Vietnam.

The worst earthquake in Turkey since the mid-1970s devastated about 500 villages in the northeast, leaving at least 1,300 dead and a further 35,000 homeless.

Some 22 African countries were affected by drought and the food and agriculture organisation estimated that 150 million people were facing the threat of dire food shortages.

Two separate air crashes occurred in Madrid Airport in less than two weeks recently. A Colombian Boeing 747 crashed on landing, killing 182 people on board, and then 42 people were killed when two Spanish airliners collided on the runway in thick fog.

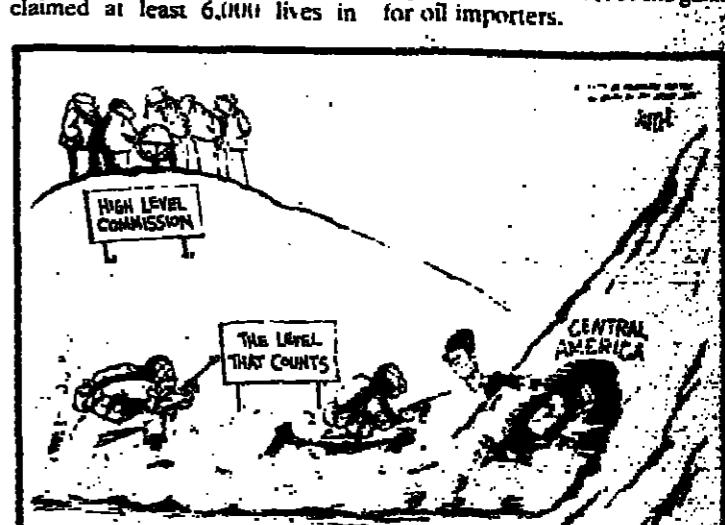
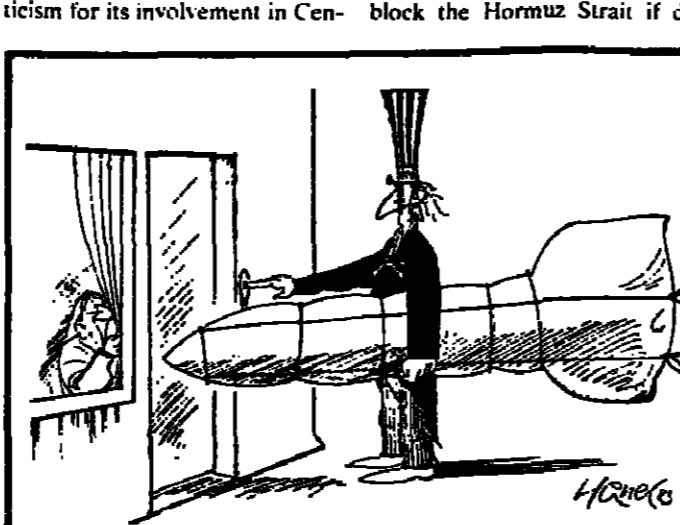
The world's poorer and developing countries took little comfort from 1983's bleak economic picture.

Brazil avoided default on its \$90 billion debts, the largest in the developing world, only through massive efforts by the International Monetary Fund and of worldwide oil companies.

South America alone owes more than \$300 million and Poland, Yugoslavia and Nigeria are among other major debtors.

Recovery from recession was slow. The U.S. economy led the way through record budget deficits. Its high interest rates and soaring dollar were blamed for attracting capital away from countries needing to fuel their own recovery.

Oil prices fell for the first time since 1973, but the steady rise in value of the dollar, the currency of payment, eroded most of the gains in oil importers.



جذب العالم

# Arabs look to the sun to conserve energy

By John Kohut  
Reuter

**KUWAIT** — Arab countries, some with oil reserves expected to last at least another century, are looking to the sun to help conserve their energy wealth.

The first Arab International Solar Energy Conference held in Kuwait recommended that Arab states co-ordinate efforts to develop solar energy.

"We don't see our efforts in developing solar energy as undermining the oil market," conference chairman Ali Sayigh told Reuters.

The five-day meeting was attended by about 300 experts from 16 Arab and 16 non-Arab countries.

Mr. Sayigh, head of the Solar Energy Department at Kuwait's Institute for Scientific Research, said solar energy could meet perhaps five per cent of world energy needs by the end of the century, compared with a half per cent now.

Increased use of solar energy would reduce dependence on oil and slow down depletion of reserves, he said.

Solar energy, produced from the light and heat of the sun, has been rapidly developed since 1958 when it was used to power the U.S. satellite Vanguard one.

Researchers in Arab countries, many with an average nine hours of sunshine a day, have been catching up with solar energy developments in the West, as evidenced by 81 highly specialised papers presented at the con-

ference.

The cost now is about 57, and scientists expect it to drop further and match that of other energy sources by the mid-1990s. Already, solar energy can be cheaper than other sources in remote rural areas not connected to power grid.

Its applications include home air conditioning, water pumping, desalination plants and protection of oil pipes from costly blowouts through corrosion.

Researchers in Arab countries, many with an average nine hours of sunshine a day, have been catching up with solar energy developments in the West, as evidenced by 81 highly specialised papers presented at the con-

ference.

Energy consumption in Arab states rose by 15 per cent between 1978 and 1981, most of it accounted for by oil and natural gas, according to the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Solar energy, used to bring potable water and refrigeration to desert tribes, is pollution-free and requires little maintenance.

One of the most ambitious solar energy projects in the Arab World is a \$100 million U.S. and Saudi Arabian-built solar village opened recently near Riyadh and designed as a prototype for similar projects throughout the kingdom.

**Saudi Arabia**, the world's biggest oil exporter with the largest known oil deposits, is also the biggest investor in solar energy

"Energy wastage in the Gulf

region is diabolical," a Gulf-based manager of a solar energy company said.

A big problem was convincing people of the need for conservation and educating them about the possible cost-competitiveness of solar energy, delegates said.

The conference recommended introducing solar energy studies in higher education institutes and establishing central information centres to reduce duplication of energy research.

"There is a lot at stake," one Arab scientist told Reuters. "With the Western World so concerned about the security of its oil supplies from the Gulf, it is in our interests to make sure there are energy supplies from various sources — and lots of it," he said.

da Habib's Corner

## No pessimists on board

Have you noticed how pessimistic people around you are? Gaiety has become rare and when someone asks "how is it going?" people seem to say: "How do you think it is going?"

It seems that things aren't going well for the majority of people. "Political news is bleak, life is becoming complicated, more a burden ..." This is what you hear all day long. Furthermore, during this last week of the year I have asked several friends what they intend to do on New Year's Eve. The answers I received were something like "well, what New Year's Eve? We have no plans for this year."

Undoubtedly the spirits are low in 1983 and New Year's Eve will be an unexciting night like most.

Well, why not, you may say. One can spend the 31st peacefully ... but this pessimistic state of mind and the low spirits bother me.

It is true that 1983 has brought unhappiness to many people, and that nationalistic beliefs and efforts have suffered severely. Our dignity was hurt too, but for heaven's sake let's not allow all this to keep us from smiling.

In spite of everything, let us welcome 1984 with optimism, and let us allow hope to grow in us again. And let us also firmly believe that everything will be better. As the saying goes: "Smile and the world will smile with you".

Happy new year to all.

## Foreign Legion: Still a formidable fighting force in the desert

By Bernard Edinger  
Reuter

**DJIBOUTI** — The French tricolour flapped in the hot desert breeze as a bugle call sounded in the emptiness of the arid Djibouti landscape.

A German sergeant barked a musical order across the parade ground and the guard detail snapped to attention for the daily ceremonial presentation to the regiment's colonel.

It could all have been a scene from a remake of "Beau Geste". But this was no film. It was one of the world's toughest and most disciplined fighting forces acting out a ritual that has not changed since 1831 when the French Foreign Legion was formed.

The legion is still a formidable

fighting body which men join to shed their past, to forget and to be forgotten.

"Why has the legion remained unchanged? Because our strength is in our traditions which we protect and maintain," Colonel Jean-Bernard Vialle told Reuters.

Col. Vialle, a tall, barrel-chested man with a close-shaven head who seems to have stepped straight out of some desert fighting epic, commands the 100-strong legion unit in Djibouti, the 13th Demi-Brigade de Legion Etrangere.

The Legion is now 8,000 strong and its men come from 60 countries.

A legion armoured car unit is in the front-line of French troops facing Libyan-backed forces in the military stalemate in the deserts of

northern Chad.

Another unit, a parachute regiment based on the Mediterranean Island of Corsica, is one of the spearheads of France's overseas intervention force.

Legion paratroopers jumped over Kuluze during Zaire's Shaba insurrection in 1978 and within two days cleared the city of rebels who had massacred European civilians.

Yet another legion regiment is garrisoned in the Amazonian jungles of French Guiana while more legionnaires guard France's nuclear testing ground in the South Pacific.

Legionnaires are fighting men and they seethed with frustration when their second infantry regiment, serving with the Multinational Force in Beirut, lost

some 15 men to artillery and sniper fire and they were not allowed to shoot back.

Unbinding discipline has always characterised the legion. Col. Vialle says corporal punishment is now banned, but adds that "The legion is certainly still a very tough place to serve."

One European civilian living in Djibouti, where legionnaires are among the best clients for the port city's bars and prostitutes, says it is best to keep clear of them when they let off steam.

Djibouti's mountainous desert wasteland, where temperatures routinely reach 45 degrees centigrade, provides perfect terrain for the legion's gruelling training.

But although the white-walled turreted legion forts made popular in Hollywood films are still found

throughout Djibouti, most have now been handed over to the fledgling national army.

The legion maintains two companies near the sensitive borders with Ethiopia and Somalia where their main role is to protect this former French colony at the mouth of the Red Sea.

Both states laid claim to Djibouti when it became independent in 1977 and the authorities here asked France to maintain a 4,500-strong garrison, including the legionnaires, to protect the new state.

The only major incident was shortly after independence when legionnaires stormed a Somali port which fired at them.

The presence of the legionnaires here has drawn stunning young women from other countries of the Horn of Africa to ply the world's oldest trade. Only a few years ago legionnaires were followed in their campaigns by their own mobile brothels.

A recruit gets the equivalent of \$20 a month when he signs a five-year contract in France. But after training and on reaching Djibouti a few months draws \$3,500 a month but he often has a family and off-base prices are high.

About half the legionnaires are native French speakers. Some are Belgians, Swiss and Canadians but most are Frenchmen who join under an assumed nationality as only foreigners can join the legion.

Others include Britons, Spaniards, Germans and even a few Vietnamese and Cambodians.

## Saudis pledge \$5m for international centre

ASHINGTON — Saudi Arabia pledged \$5 million Dec. 10 for the construction and development of the Smith-Sonian International Centre, one of the major components of the centre for African, Near Eastern and Asian cultures, which is now being built on the National Mall in Washington.

The donation has made to further better understanding and mutual relations between the people of the United States and those of Saudi Arabia and the Arab and Islamic world," said Saudi Prince Bandar Ibn Sultan Ibn Abdulaziz, Saudi ambassador to the United States, as he signed his government's agreement with the Smithsonian.

As part of the international centre, there will be a centre for Islamic studies, where scholars from around the world can study the contributions that Islam has made to architecture, art and folk traditions. Plans also include a residence programme for visiting scholars.

The centre will be the focus of an institutional effort to preserve cultural values and traditions and the environment in which they exist.

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# SPORTS

## Australia wins Davis Cup

MELBOURNE (R) — Australia won the Davis Cup for the 25th time Wednesday with a crushing performance of power, speed and accuracy from 18-year-old Pat Cash.

The precocious teenager who was the world's top junior last year showed the talent which one day make him the world's number one as he demolished Joakim Nyström 6-4, 6-1, 6-1 to give Australia a winning 3-1 lead over Sweden.

Mats Wilander reduced the final deficit to 3-2 with a hollow 6-8, 6-0, 6-1 victory over John Fitzgerald in the 'dead' singles, which was reduced to best-of-three sets.

Team captain Neale Fraser, himself a member of four successive cup-winning teams from 1959 to 1962 and a successful captain in 1973 and 1977, called this victory "the greatest challenge of my life."

"For us to win the Davis Cup without a player ranked in the top 30 in the world... you can go back to the record books but I don't think any other country ever won the cup without a player in the top 30."

"We have beaten players consistently ranked higher than us throughout the year — that to me is a tremendous achievement."

one-man team.

On Wednesday Cash was a different player from the one who lost to Nyström in the New South Wales Open as he took charge from the beginning of the match to open a 4-1 lead.

It came with a service break in the second game.

The 20-year-old Nyström, who was under tremendous pressure to keep Sweden in the fight, was tentative and again troubled by his first serve. But he clawed his way back and broke Cash's serve with a sizzling cross court backhand in the seventh game to narrow the score to 4-3.

Cash, however, broke him for the set in the 10th game when Nyström lunged at a return and hit it just out of court.

Cash tightened his grip in the second set, breaking serve in the second and sixth games, and the Swede's resistance melted away in the final set as Cash kept turning the screw. Nyström won just two points in the last four games and Cash won with a confident top spin lob which Nyström could only watch.

Cash, who double faulted 16 times against Wilander, served just two doubles Wednesday and also returned and volleyed very well.

"This is the greatest thrill of my life," he said. "I feel Joakim didn't play his best today. He is a tough player and I was happy to get through him."

But here, only Wilander delivered, and for all their promise Sweden are still very much a



Two members of the Jordanian Armed Forces display their martial arts skills in a 3-day competition which ended Wednesday.

## Armed Forces Tae Kwan Do championships end

AMMAN (Petra) — The Armed Forces Tae Kwan Do championships ended at the Sports City's Palace of Sport on Wednesday with the special forces team scoring the highest points. Taking part in the 3-day competition were 43 competitors who displayed skills of high standards.

At the end of Wednesday's finals, the commander of the Fourth Royal Mechanised Division presented the cup to the winning team and medals to the other participants. The final match was also attended by senior army officers.

## Egypt wins African basketball

ALEXANDRIA (R) — Egypt trounced Angola 44-68 (halftime score 43-31) Tuesday night to win the 12th African Men's Basketball Championships.

Egypt, which lost the title eight years ago, regained it without a single defeat in the five-game series.

The win qualifies Egypt to play in the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, joining its volleyball team which won the African Men's Championships earlier this month.

The Angolans, lacking the vigour and speed they displayed on Monday in beating favourites Senegal 68-61, took an early lead, but was unable to contain an Egyptian side cheered on by 10,000 fans.

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I had every conceivable luxury installed."



Old Parr

## Turkey sets bases for Islamic banks

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkey has prepared the ground for establishment of Islamic banks with the publication of guidelines to govern their operation.

Dubbed "special finance institutions", the Islamic banks are expected to attract capital from Muslim countries, especially Saudi Arabia, banking sources said.

Islamic banks do not pay or charge interest, banned under Islamic law, but instead share in profits of ventures they finance and divide their own profits among shareholders and depositors. None have yet been established in Turkey, where at least 90 per cent of the population is Muslim.

Under a decree published in the official gazette, the special financial institutions are required to have 100 founding shareholders

and a minimum capital of 5 billion lira (\$17.5 million). Foreign shareholders will have to pay for their shares in foreign currency.

The decree permits Islamic banks to finance trade and agricultural activities and joint ventures, as well as granting letters of guarantee for contractors working abroad.

Mr. Tuncay Artun, deputy general manager of Yapi Ve Kredi Bankasi, said the establishment of banks based on Islamic principles could benefit Turkey by attracting Arab capital.

Mr. Kaya Erdem, deputy prime minister in the new government of Mr. Turgut Ozal which approved the decree, was quoted by the conservative daily *Tercuman* as saying Islamic banks would contribute to reinvestment of domestic savings in the economy.

### LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Government bonds showed net gains ranging to 7/16 point on hopes of a reduction in U.S. interest rates but trading interest was small following Christmas, dealers said. At 1500 hrs the F.T. index was down 1.1 at 773.9.

Equities were mixed with interest very selective. Oil shares continued last week's firmer trend with B.P. a net 6p up at 401 while Shell rose 5p to 561 with sentiment still helped by stable crude oil prices, dealers said.

Gold shares closed below best levels after a quiet session and North American shares firmed.

BTR added 3p to 427 after favourable press comment but Grand Met fell 7p to 331 in further reaction to last week's results and a one for five scrip issue. ICI ended 2p down at 654 but P and O firms 3p to 247 on renewed speculative demand, dealers noted.

Combined English stores was 5p up at 46 after news it sold a retail menswear chain to the Burton group which closed 6p up at 422. Banks and insurances drifted lower. Eagle Star fell 10p to 707 after 70s awaiting further bid developments.

Tanjong Tin advanced to 325 from 250 on Far East demand in a market short of stock.

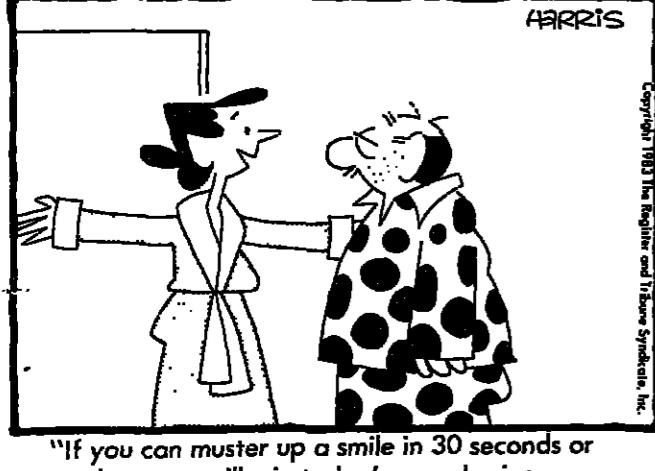
### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One-sterling ..	1.4235415 ..	U.S. dollars ..
One U.S. dollar	1.2448/51	Canadian dollars
2.7520/35	3.0930/50	West German marks
3.0930/50	2.1880/1910	Dutch guilders
56.11/16	56.11/16	Swiss francs
8.4200/50	8.4200/50	Belgian francs
1671.00/1672.50	1671.00/1672.50	French francs
233.65/80	233.65/80	Italian lire
8.0500/50	8.0500/50	Japanese yen
7.7550/7600	7.7550/7600	Swedish crowns
9.4700/50	9.4700/50	Norwegian crowns
379.00/379.50	379.00/379.50	Danish crowns
		U.S. dollars

### THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



### JUMBLE

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME: by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

OPTIA

ROUCS

CARCIT

CATIMP



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: "A [circled letters] [circled letters]" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: LIVEN \* FLUID INNING DEFAME

Answer: The dentist grew fat because almost everything he touched was this — FILLING

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Kuwait to explore for oil in Bahrain

BAHRAIN (R) — Bahrain's minister of development and industry, Mr. Yousef Ahmad Al-Shirawi, Wednesday signed an offshore oil exploration agreement with a state-owned Kuwait oil concern, officials said. Under the agreement, the Kuwait Petroleum Exploration Company will explore for oil in a concession of about 660,000 acres off the north-east coast of Bahrain. Superior Oil of the United States had previously held the concession, but had relinquished its rights. The Kuwaiti company, an offshoot of the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, will conduct seismic tests in the areas, followed by test drilling, the officials said.

#### Riyadh, Seoul to set up joint ventures

MANAMA (OPECNA) — Saudi Arabia and South Korea are to set up joint petrochemical and construction ventures, according to an agreement concluded in Jeddah Tuesday. The agreement also includes a bilateral aviation convention and a \$50 million Saudi loan to help finance South Korea's port development projects.

#### B.A. rejects Pan Am charges

LONDON (R) — British Airways (B.A.) Wednesday rejected a complaint by Pan American World Airways (Pan Am) that the British government unfairly subsidised Concorde's transatlantic fares. Pan Am says British Airways diverts first class traffic from U.S. flag carriers because it sets fares aboard the supersonic aircraft substantially below cost. A British Airways spokeswoman said: "Concorde is making a useful contribution to profit. The fares are certainly not below costs." British Airways expects the Concorde to make an operating profit of about £10 million (\$14 million) this year. It will pay about 80 per cent of this back to the British government. Pan Am said it lost a total of \$150 million since Concorde service began in 1977.

#### S. Arabia donates \$5m to Guinea

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia has donated \$5 million for relief operations in Guinea following last week's earthquake in which hundreds of people were killed, the official Saudi Press Agency reported Wednesday. It said the cash donation was in addition to blankets, tents, medicine and food supplies.

## Rabat to survey people's wealth

RABAT (R) — Morocco is to carry out a national census of people's wealth to determine who should bear the cost of planned price increases for basic commodities, King Hassan announced Monday night.

In a state broadcast, the monarch said details of the census, which he described as a unique 'survey', would be given by the minister of the interior, who will be responsible for organising it.

The king said drought, deteriorating terms of trade and the cost of war in the Western Sahara had pushed Morocco into financial difficulties and necessitated increases in the prices of basic commodities.

The cost of the increases, however, should not be borne by the public at large but by "certain categories of wealthy people," he said.

He did not say whether taxes would be increased on higher incomes, or whether the wealthy would be made to contribute to the state's compensation fund used to subsidise the prices of basic foods and petroleum products.

He said the census would be different from the population census

taken in September 1982 which counted over 20 million people, but gave no further details.

Postal charges and the prices of most basic foods, tobacco, petroleum products and electricity have all been increased since the government introduced an austerity budget in July before requesting the rescheduling of part of its foreign debt, estimated at over \$11 billion.

The budget slashed government spending, abolished some civil service jobs and introduced a new tax on Moroccans travelling abroad.

Severe import restrictions were also introduced to cut the trade deficit which in 1982 was a record \$2.26 billion.

The 1983 budget will be drafted soon by a 6-party coalition government formed by the king on Nov. 30 to supervise legislative elections scheduled for the end of January or early February.

The king said the new chamber of representatives, whose first tasks will include approval of next year's budget, will meet for the first time on the second Friday in April.

### Peanuts



## Freezing weather in U.S. boosts free market oil price

ROTTERDAM (R) — Freezing weather in the United States has sharply boosted free market oil prices since Christmas, easing much of the pressure for cuts in the official price of Britain's North Sea oil, traders said Wednesday.

As the European market got back into its stride Wednesday morning, the key North Sea Brent crude oil was pegged at \$29.50 a barrel for January loading, 60 cents up from Friday.

This compares with an official price of \$31 a barrel which the British National Oil Corporation

(BNOC) aims to maintain during the first quarter of 1984.

In recent negotiations with oil companies, BNOC has come under strong pressure to cut one to \$2 off a barrel because of weak demand for oil.

Since October, most crudes have traded on the free spot mar-

ket at far below official prices.

Like the Organisation of Pet-

roleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Britain is trying to resist

price cuts which could trigger a chaotic price war.

The boost which the market is getting from the U.S. freeze is bound to reinforce BNOC's confidence, even though no one thinks prices will stay firm for long," one senior trader said.

Much of the pressure for price cuts came from U.S. companies who buy North Sea oil on official priced contracts but have no references in Europe and must sell the crude at the best value they can get.

Traders said Chevron Oil, which takes around 60,000 barrels a day (b/d) of North Sea oil from the Nenian field, may well decide not to continue with its contract.

With one key North Sea oil company, Esso, already committed to an unchanged price structure, and B.P. and Shell believed to be in the same position, industry sources now expect no changes this coming quarter.

### YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

#### FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1983

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You will be very tied down to some duties and responsibilities today and it is the right day for you to be most conscientious in carrying through with them. Organize your future.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Try to get those payments cut down that have you wrought up and make it easier on yourself in the future.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) An associate is applying pressure to make sure you are doing what you have agreed to do. Cheerfully comply.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You have to get your work done without fail today, so get at it and it won't be as hard as you had anticipated.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Recreation you were looking forward to may be postponed, so don't let it rile you up. Await a better day.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Home conditions are not to your liking now, so absent yourself for a while. Get busy at what will give you greater income in the future.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Vital data should be gone after early in the day for best results. Postpone any trip you have in mind. Exercise caution while driving.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Plan to economize and do not be drawn into anything that means making a heavy investment of money or property.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Stop feeling so nervous and irritated about something that is really not so important; just smile and take it in stride.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Don't permit that private anxiety to keep you away from important activities and you soon can make progress.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A dynamic friend can give you good advice, so follow it, though it may mean giving up some frivolity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) If some problem or legal affair crops up, take care of it right away, especially if it concerns an older individual.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Use your finest judgment in handling that new project and be sure you have all the facts and figures concerning it.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be rather a slow starter at work or study and have the tendency to procrastinate. Teach your progeny to finish whatever is started before going on to other interests. Then there can be much success during the lifetime.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

#### FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1983

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning is excellent for making arrangements to celebrate the oncoming New Year and whatever has to do with romantic interests or the lighter side of life.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Show new contacts that you want to see more of them and then consider new deals and go to different sites.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Be more cooperative with a partner and be willing to carry through with an agreement that interests him as well.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Early get all that work done that is ahead of you and after lunch make new contacts of worth. Complete a neglected project.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You need more entertainment so make arrangements for such in the evening. Do something thoughtful for your mate.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Improve your image and later be of assistance to a co-worker. Some new treatment is necessary for better health.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Sending a personal greeting to one you admire is wise, then you can be happy with your family. Make long-distance calls.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Make your home look more festive and then make a fine plan for added income in the future. Appease family members.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You are able to accomplish a good deal throughout the day, but find more work to do in the evening also.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Pay a compliment to your mate and then go into the world of action and produce a great deal.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Express your affection for a friend and later you can be with a group and have a delightful time together. Improve appearance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) If you are available, you can gain added prestige in the outside world. Then get busy at personal matters.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A new contact can be very helpful in the morning, then seek out bigwigs for any backing you need. Plan trip.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she should be encouraged to work on a plan for success in some field where this quality is a prerequisite. Your progeny will be most articulate and early plans bring

# Andropov stays away from Supreme Soviet

MOSCOW (R) — President Yuri Andropov, absent from the public scene for more than four months, stayed away from a session of the Supreme Soviet Wednesday, further fueling speculation about his future as Kremlin chief.

But references to Mr. Andropov by officials and the state media indicated that he remained in command and was expected to reappear before long.

The legislature, which meets briefly twice a year, was given an outline of the 1984 state plan and heard a report on the economy that showed Mr. Andropov's first year in office had scored some successes.

The winter session of the Supreme Soviet was the third major event in the Soviet calendar missed by Mr. Andropov since he began suffering from an undisclosed illness in mid-August.

No explanation was given to the assembled deputies when the leadership walked into the grand Kremlin Palace and Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov took the seat normally occupied by the president.

Alongside Mr. Tikhonov sat Mr. Konstantin Chernenko, the Kremlin's second-ranking leader

Kremlin, giving the impression of a power vacuum at a time of international tension.

They also believe that Mr. Andropov's authority for the moment is not in question. The strongest evidence was that three men closely associated with his policies were promoted to top party positions earlier this week.

The official media have given maximum publicity to a series of statements, mainly on foreign policy, appearing under Mr. Andropov's name over the past four months.

In the latest sign that he is not about to leave the scene, the Official News Agency TASS reported Wednesday that the Moscow district he represents in the Supreme Soviet had nominated him to stand for re-election in March.

When the party chief failed to turn up at a meeting of the central committee on Monday, he said in a published statement he had been kept away for "temporary causes."

The party and Supreme Soviet sessions had been delayed for a month to enable Mr. Andropov to recover enough to attend.

Western diplomats believe his prolonged absence is now causing serious embarrassment for the

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## Pretoria-backed rebels claim victories in Mozambique

LISBON (R) — Mozambican rebels have killed 138 government troops, seized several towns and destroyed communication links and economic targets in a new campaign against the government of President Samora Machel, a guerrilla spokesman said Wednesday.

The Lisbon-based spokesman

for the South African-backed Mozambique National Resistance (RNM) said the new offensive was the biggest since Mozambique won independence from Portugal in 1975.

He said the guerrillas has scored victories along the Zambeze River and along the important railway link from Malawi to the Port of Beira.

## 150 hurt in Bangladesh as violence halts elections

DHAKA (R) — Authorities suspended voting in at least 17 rural election centres across Bangladesh after at least 150 people were injured in clashes between supporters of rival candidates.

Official sources said police opened fire at some centres Tuesday to disperse crowds who beat up polling officers, snatched away ballot boxes and intimidated voters.

About a dozen people were arrested,

At least a dozen people were killed and 200 injured in clashes during campaigning for the elections, police said.

In other places voting went off peacefully on the first day of the first rural elections in seven years.

More than 47 million people were expected to vote in the two weeks of polling for 4,400 rural councils called union councils.

## U.S. Supreme Court refuses to hear patient's plea to die

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — The California Supreme Court Wednesday refused to hear a plea from a woman suffering from cerebral palsy that she be allowed to starve herself to death.

Elizabeth Bouvia, 26, a quadriplegic who is confined to a wheelchair and has said her life has lost all its value, has been waging a court battle to legally require nurses to provide her with hygienic care and painkillers while she waits to die.

Lawyers for Miss Bouvia appealed to the Supreme Court in San Francisco, California's highest court, to stop Riverside General Hospital, where she is a patient, from force-feeding her.

The hospital began feeding her intravenously through her arm on Thursday after her weight had dropped to 90 pounds (41 kilograms). The lawyers members of the American Civil Liberties Union, also asked the court to block any attempt by the hospital to possibly

discharge her Thursday.

But in a brief ruling signed by Chief Justice Rose Bird, the court told lawyers to follow standard legal procedures and first make representations to the state court of Appeals in San Bernardino, California.

Hospital officials want to discharge Miss Bouvia, saying she is demoralising the staff and costing taxpayers \$1,800 a day.

The hospital's acting chief of medicine, Dr. Habib Bacchus, said that since being forcibly fed Miss Bouvia had become well enough to be discharged. But she was refusing to go.

Hospital lawyer Barbara Miliken said Miss Bouvia's presence in the hospital has demoralised the staff. "They don't know which way to turn," she said.

"They are afraid of lawsuits and even criminal prosecution and do not want to become involved" in Bouvia's efforts to kill herself, Ms. Miliken said.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
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### WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

You hold:

\*7 ♦QJ854 ♦A8763 ♦92

Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

\*5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

\*1076 ♦AQJ62 ♦A763 ♦99

The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

\*953 ♦QJ854 ♦A8 ♦Q74

Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.7—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

\*AQ85 ♦KQ7 ♦AQJ92 ♦K

Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one diamond. What action do you take?

Q.8—As South, vulnerable,

## New York gas explosion kills 15

BUFFALO, New York (R) — At least 15 people were killed and dozens more injured in an explosion and fire which destroyed several houses, a warehouse, a bakery and a church in central Buffalo Thursday night, police said.

The fire raged out of control for about three hours after the blast, believed to have been caused by a leaking propane gas cylinder.

Authorities said hospitals were having difficulty contacting staff

during the holiday period to treat the injured. Private vehicles had to supplement ambulance service. "We are in the middle of the disaster here ... 50 people have been brought in," a spokesman for one hospital said.

Windows were blown out in a large area of the east end of Buffalo. Police said a gas leak in a warehouse probably caused the blast.

Initial reports said firemen were called to a house to investigate the

source of propane gas fumes. The house apparently exploded as the firemen began their checks.

One fire engine was engulfed in flames and at least two firemen were among the dead.

The explosion came after Buffalo, in upstate New York, was one of the hardest hit cities in the 10-day-old winter storm which has gripped the United States.

Fourteen inches (35 cms) of snow fell on the city over the Christmas holiday.

## COLUMNS 7&8

### Guns found in champagne crates

AOSTA, ITALY (R) — Police seized ammunition, rifles, pistols and explosives hidden in champagne crates in a raid near this Italian Alpine town Tuesday, police said. They said one man was being held on suspicion of involvement in an international gun-running racket. The guns were said to have been shipped between Marseilles and Italy through this mountainous north-western area of the country. Police also said they discovered letters from Turkey in the house where they found the weapons.

### Philippines taxmen accused of graft

MANILA (R) — A total of 19 overly-wealthy officials of the Philippines Bureau of Internal Revenue face charges of graft, corruption and unexplained wealth, the tax department said. A spokesman said Tuesday nine more names had been added to a list of tax collectors facing charges before a special anti-graft court in an intensified campaign to rid the service of undesirables.

### Nicaragua reports 2,470 deaths in 1983

MANAGUA (R) — A senior Nicaraguan official said Tuesday the struggle between government troops and U.S.-backed rebels cost at least 2,470 lives this year. Sandinista army commander Humberto Ortega said the violence killed 346 civilians, 300 Nicaraguan troops and 1,824 rebels. The total did not include casualties in the latest round of fighting along the northern border with Honduras, he said.

### Cold kills 12 in Bangladesh

DHAKA (R) — Twelve people, five of them children, have died in a sudden cold snap in northern Bangladesh, the state-run newspaper Dainik Bangla said Wednesday.

### Soviets conduct Christmas nuclear test

WASHINGTON (R) — The Soviet Union conducted a Christmas underground nuclear explosion Monday, according to seismic signals monitored by the United States Atomic Energy detection system. The U.S. Energy Department reported. It said the signals originated on Dec. 25 at 11:29 P.M. (0429 gmt Dec. 26) at the Semipalatinsk test area in Siberia. The department said it was the ninth Soviet test monitored in 1983.

### Bones weaken in space, expert says

NASHVILLE (R) — An American orthopedics professor said Tuesday that weightlessness in space caused bones to weaken and not to grow properly, thus posing a problem for lengthy manned space flights. Dr. Dan Spenger said in a statement issued by Vanderbilt University here that this had been proved from studies of American astronauts in the 1973 Skylab Orbiting Space Station and rats aboard the Soviet satellite Cosmos 936. Spenger said one way to overcome bone problems with astronauts might be to produce a spinning motion in the spacecraft which would simulate gravitational force and give human bones something to exercise against.

## U.S., S. Korean forces to hold military exercise

SEOUL (R) — More than 200,000 members of the U.S. and South Korean armed forces will take part in a massive annual joint military exercise early next year. The Korean-U.S. Combined Forces Command (CFC) announced Wednesday.

U.S. units from outside South Korea, including an aircraft carrier battle group of the Seventh Fleet, will join elements of the 40,000-strong American force already stationed here in the 10-week exercise called "Team Spirit '84".

North Korea and China were informed of the manoeuvres through the armistice commission at Panmunjom earlier Wednesday, a CFC spokesman said.

He said it had not yet been decided whether to invite the North Koreans and Chinese as observers to the exercise. They declined invitations to similar exercises in the past two years.

The exercise will involve 36,400 U.S. forces from the United States and other areas outside South Korea.

The CFC spokesman said the large U.S. participation in the exercise would demonstrate President Reagan's pledge to strengthen American forces in South Korea made during his visit here last month.

The court found 19 other defendants, including eight civil servants and several bank officials, guilty of involvement in the illegal operation and sentenced them to terms ranging from seven years in jail to one year suspended.

The scandal led to the dismissal of 30 public servants, including those sentenced, and prompted the Finance Ministry to replace the chiefs of three major state banks.

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## Invincible leaves Sydney after controversial visit

SYDNEY (R) — The British aircraft carrier Invincible sailed out of Sydney harbour Wednesday after a controversial visit which triggered a diplomatic row over Australia's nuclear weapons policy.

The carrier, seeking dry-dock facilities for repairs it had experienced to be carried out in Sydney, was heading first for the Western Australian port of Perth, according to diplomatic sources.

But no one was saying where the carrier would go next for the work on a damaged propeller shaft which is affecting its speed.

A British navy spokesman declined comment on reports that repairs would be carried out in Singapore. Singapore was approached last week by the carrier, according to Defence Ministry officials in Singapore.

The Invincible, on a goodwill visit to the region, was stopped from putting into dry dock here because the Labour government does not allow nuclear weapons on Australian soil and because the British, as a matter of policy, refused to say whether it carried them.

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